

REMARKS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for conducting the telephone interview of August 19, 2004, in which it was confirmed that claims 1 and 6 should recite "end plates" rather than "end points." Applicant has amended claims 1 and 6 accordingly.

Claims 1-7 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1, 2 and 5-7 stand rejected. The Examiner has indicated that claims 3 and 4 contain allowable features. Applicant has maintained claims 3 and 4 in their dependent form due to the allowability of claim 1 as detailed below.

Claims 1-2, and 5-7 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Epars (U.S. Patent No. 4,700,096) in view of Amemiya (U.S. Patent No. 4,697,114). Applicant traverses this rejection.

Claims 1 and 6 recite arranging two yokes alongside each other and connecting the yokes using end plates to form a pole element. Neither Epar nor Amemiya discloses or suggests combining two yokes to form a pole element as recited in the claims. Amemiya, as the Examiner noted, uses end plates 14 and 15 to in order to restrict the axial movement of the permanent magnets, but the end plates are not used to form pole elements. By combining all of the yokes together with one pair of end plates, individual pole elements are not formed. In both Epar and Amemiya the pole elements are formed by the structure of the rotors during manufacture. Individual pole elements are not formed.

Similarly, neither Epar nor Amemiya discloses or suggests fixing the pole elements to the rotor. Due to the structure of both Epar and Amemiya, the pole elements are formed on the rotors, and because they are formed on the rotors, they cannot be fixed to rotor bodies as recited in the claims. Applicant submits that, for at least the reasons discussed above, the combination of Epar and Amemiya fails to disclose all of the features recited in the claims. Therefore claims 1 and 6 are allowable, as are dependent claims 2-6 and 7.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 449122010600. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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